

By Facsimile: (571) 273-8300

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (canceled)
2. (presently amended) A method as claimed in claim 41, wherein at least one of said signal emitting devices will emit in response to a request from at least one of said readers and said network.
3. (presently amended) A method as claimed in claim 41, wherein each of said signal emitting devices operates at different frequencies.
4. (presently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, A method for locating stolen vehicles and preventing vehicle theft, the method comprising:
 - providing a vehicle with a plurality of signal emitting devices, each of said plurality of signal emitting devices being independent of said vehicle's power source and camouflaged among said vehicle's various parts;
 - storing in a central database registration data for said vehicle;
 - placing a plurality of readers for receiving signals from said plurality of signal emitting devices at a plurality of locations in a geographical area;
 - connecting said readers through a network to said central database;
 - at least one of said plurality of signal emitting devices initiating transmitting information from said vehicle to said readers;
 - at least one of said plurality of readers receiving said information; and

By Facsimile: (571) 273-8300

correlating said information being received by said readers with said registration data in said central database to identify vehicles that have been reported stolen;

wherein each of said signal emitting device operates at a varying signal strength.

5. (presently amended) A method as claimed in claim 41, wherein each of said signal emitting devices emits a signal at a different time.

6. (presently amended) A method as claimed in claim 44, wherein said plurality of signal emitting devices comprises a number of functional devices and a number of non-functional devices.

7. (presently amended) ~~A method as claimed in claim 1;~~ A method for locating stolen vehicles and preventing vehicle theft, the method comprising:

providing a vehicle with a plurality of signal emitting devices, each of said plurality of signal emitting devices being independent of said vehicle's power source and camouflaged among said vehicle's various parts;

storing in a central database registration data for said vehicle;

placing a plurality of readers for receiving signals from said plurality of signal emitting devices at a plurality of locations in a geographical area;

connecting said readers through a network to said central database;

at least one of said plurality of signal emitting devices initiating transmitting information from said vehicle to said readers;

at least one of said plurality of readers receiving said information; and

correlating said information being received by said readers with said registration data in said central database to identify vehicles that have been reported stolen;

wherein said camouflaging said devices among said various parts comprises color matching said device with a part in which said device is to be placed.

By Facsimile: (571) 273-8300

8. (presently amended) ~~A method as claimed in claim 1;~~ A method for locating stolen vehicles and preventing vehicle theft, the method comprising:

providing a vehicle with a plurality of signal emitting devices, each of said plurality of signal emitting devices being independent of said vehicle's power source and camouflaged among said vehicle's various parts;

storing in a central database registration data for said vehicle;

placing a plurality of readers for receiving signals from said plurality of signal emitting devices at a plurality of locations in a geographical area;

connecting said readers through a network to said central database;

at least one of said plurality of signal emitting devices initiating transmitting information from said vehicle to said readers;

at least one of said plurality of readers receiving said information; and

correlating said information being received by said readers with said registration data in said central database to identify vehicles that have been reported stolen;

wherein said camouflaging said devices among said various parts comprises emulating a vehicle component on a part in which said device is placed.

9. (presently amended) A method as claimed in claim 44, wherein said readers are fixed readers having a specific location.

10. (original) A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein said fixed readers periodically verify said specific location to ensure said fixed readers have not been moved.

11. (original) A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein said fixed readers are located in an enclosed area where vehicles regularly circulate.

12. (original) A method as claimed in claim 11, wherein said fixed readers are TAG certified by TAG personnel to ensure that said fixed readers are positioned in a manner

By Facsimile: (571) 273-8300

to scan all vehicles which enter said enclosed area.

13. (presently amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~44~~, further comprising at least one insurance company providing incentives to vehicle owners who use said signal emitting devices.

14. (original) A method as claimed in claim 13, wherein at least one of said plurality of locations for said readers is a scrap yard, and vehicles entering said scrap yard are automatically read by said readers.

15. (original) A method as claimed in claim 14, wherein said scrap yard having a reader is certified by said at least one insurance company.

16. (canceled)

17. (presently amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~44~~, wherein at least one of said signal emitting devices is provided in substantially all major body parts of said vehicle.

18. (presently amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~44~~, wherein at least some of said signal emitting devices emit signals at a frequency of once every few hours.

19. (presently amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~44~~, wherein said signal emitting devices are embedded in said vehicle in a manner such that close inspection cannot detect a presence of said signal emitting devices.

20. (presently amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~44~~, wherein said signal emitting devices are embedded in said vehicle in a manner such that removal would damage said vehicle.

21. (canceled)

22. (presently amended) A system as claimed in claim ~~23~~, wherein each of said signal emitting devices operates at a different frequency.

23. (presently amended) ~~A system as claimed in claim 21, A system for preventing~~

By Facsimile: (571) 273-8300

vehicle theft, the system comprising:

a plurality of signal emitting devices placed and camouflaged among various parts of a vehicle, each of said plurality of signal emitting devices being independent of said vehicle's power source and transmitting to a plurality of readers without being prompted to do so;

said plurality of readers placed at a plurality of locations in a geographical area and connected through a network to a central database, said plurality of readers receiving signals from said plurality of signal emitting devices; and

a central database comprising registration data for each vehicle equipped with said signal emitting devices, and wherein said registration data in said central database is correlated with said reader data to identify vehicles that have been stolen;

wherein each of said signal emitting device operates at a varying signal strength.

24. (presently amended) A system as claimed in claim 2324, wherein each of said signal emitting devices emits a signal at a different time.

25. (presently amended) A system as claimed in claim 2324, wherein said plurality of signal emitting devices comprises a number of functional devices and a number of non-functional devices.

26. (presently amended) A system as claimed in claim 2324, wherein at least one of said plurality of locations for said readers is a scrap yard, and vehicles entering said scrap yard are automatically read by said readers.

27. (presently amended) A system as claimed in claim 2324, wherein at least one of said locations is an enclosed area where vehicles regularly circulate.

28. (original) A system as claimed in claim 27, wherein said readers in said enclosed area are TAG certified by TAG personnel to ensure that all vehicles which enter said enclosed area are scanned.

By Facsimile: (571) 273-8300

29. (presently amended) A system as claimed in claim ~~23~~24, wherein said readers transmit requests to said signal emitting devices and said signal emitting devices receive said requests and emit signals in response to said requests.

30. (presently amended) A system as claimed in claim ~~23~~24, wherein said database is accessible by various agencies for consultation.

31. (original) A system as claimed in claim 30, wherein said database is accessible by various agencies for updating.

32. (presently amended) A system as claimed in claim ~~24~~24, wherein said various parts of a vehicle are substantially all major body parts of said vehicle.

33. (presently amended) A system as claimed in claim ~~24~~24, wherein said network is a wireless network.

34.-41. (canceled)

42. (previously presented) A method for locating stolen vehicles and preventing vehicle theft, the method comprising:

providing each of said vehicles with a plurality of signal emitting devices, each of said plurality of signal emitting devices being independent of said vehicle's power source and camouflaged among said vehicles' various parts;

registering each of said vehicles in a central database;

placing readers for receiving signals from said plurality of signal emitting devices at a plurality of locations in a geographical area;

connecting said readers to a network having a central location such that all information being processed by said readers is transferred to and accessible by said central location; and

correlating said information being processed by said readers with said central

By Facsimile: (571) 273-8300

database to identify vehicles that have been reported stolen

wherein said readers are fixed readers having a specific location and said fixed readers periodically verify said specific location to ensure said fixed readers have not been moved.